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Bangalore Mirror ON SUNDAY

TEMP Max 27 | Min 18 | Humidity 84% Generally cloudy sky Sensex 60,950 | Nifty 18,117 | Gold 50,875 | Silver 60,616 | Dollar 82.03 | Euro 81.30 | GBP 92.61

Rehab on Wheels to facilitate accessible, affordable, quality rehabilitation of disabled, elderly, socioeconomically challenged citizens

WHEELER HEALER

Pilot services at MS Palya, Whitefield, Kothanur, Hebbal, Hosakote

Iffath.Fathima
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Individuals with disabilities do not have access to the required quality rehabilitation services either in the city or state.

According to persons working with disabled individuals, the government tends to focus on the medical care and often the need for rehabilitation is overlooked — in order to augment assistance in this regard, The Association of People with Disabilities (APD) has conceived 'Rehab on Wheels' that aims at creating accessible, affordable and quality rehabilitation services for the socioeconomically challenged vulnerable population in Karnataka free of cost.

As part of the project, a fully equipped mobile rehab unit with services such as physiotherapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, counselling, aids and appliances measurement, fitment and user training, social security, referral to livelihood opportunities, schooling and medical/surgical interventions, is made available for the people till the last mile.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

"Project will help us codify and replicate in multiple locations where there is a need for rehabilitation

— Senthil NS Kumar, CEO, The Association of People with Disability

Smoke Signals

'Number of Pollution Under Control (PUC) certificates issued abysmally low against number of new vehicles registered'

Garima Prasher
c-garima.prasher@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The number of vehicles turning up at pollution check centres across Karnataka to obtain Pollution Under Control (PUC) certification has only marginally increased over the last five years, according to official data shared by Karnataka's transport department.

As per statistics, the department issued close to 41 lakh PUC certificates in 2018, around 69 lakh in 2019, a little over 66 lakh in 2020 whereas 73 lakh PUC certificates were issued in 2021. By June 2022, the total number of certificates issued was around 41 lakh.

Experts BM spoke to said the number of PUC certificates being issued is still abysmally low when compared to the number of new vehicles registered.

As of March 31, 2022, the state recorded a total of over 2.8 crore transport and non-transport vehicles registrations. While over 15.75 lakh vehicles were registered in 2019-20, 11.56 lakh new vehicles were registered in 2020-21 and 11.50 lakh in 2021-22.

"Calculating the exact number of vehicles with PUC is difficult as some vehicles might have active PUC for a certain period. Also, many vehicles being registered in

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4 »

4 THINGS TO DO

01 For theatre lovers

Ranga Shankara is back with its annual theatre festival. This year Ranga Shankara has decided to zero in on plays that shed light on this year's theme JUST Theatre. Apne Ghar Jaisa written by Anmol Vellani will be performed at the festival.
When: November 6, 7:30 pm onwards
Where: Ranga Shankara, JP Nagar
Tickets: bookmyshow.com

02 Mind Manifesto

Sly Granny presents "Gender Sensitivity and Inclusivity with the LGBTQ + Community" as the theme for its Mind Manifesto Society session. Share and discuss intellectual ideas with like-minded people in this interesting session.
When: November 9;
Where: Sly Granny, Indiranagar
Register: 08884498120

03 A stage for all!

Perform or simply watch and enjoy at Open Mic Bengaluru. Enjoy an evening full of music, storytelling, singing, poetry, beatboxing and a lot more.
When: November 13;
Where: Pops of Pastel studio; Tickets: Allevents.in

04 Hometown music festival

Get ready for the most magical event of the week. Filled with music, great food and specially curated drinks this event will surely make your evening grand. **When: November 12; Where: UB city**
Tickets: insider.in

You are being watched

TET exams will be video recorded to avert any malpractices by candidates

Sridhar Vivan
sridhar.vivan
@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @sridharvMirror

Candidates have to come an hour before TET exam starts and no one can leave while it is ongoing

Sunday is D-Day for teaching aspirants as more than 3.6 lakh candidates will be writing the Teachers Entrance Test (TET) in the state. Following a series of exam malpractices in the state for various recruitment exams, the education department has decided not to take any chances for TET and hence strict measures are in place. The entire test proceedings will be recorded to keep an eye on candidates at sensitive centres.

This year's TET is said to be bigger than the previous years as last year, 2,51,834 candidates appeared but the numbers have soared to 3,61,385 this year.

As per the latest exam guidelines, the candidates have been barred from wearing either shoes or belts. All the candidates have been asked to report to the exam hall an hour before the test starts and no one is allowed to exit in between. There is a strict prohibition on using watches, mobile phones, calculators, Bluetooth or any other gizmos during exams. Log tables, whiteners, match sticks or cigarette lighters are also not allowed. Separate rooms have been arranged for specially-abled candidates as well.

An official said, "The PSI exam scam had shocked the state. As this is an all-important exam, we don't want to take chances. Hence, we have directed the officials to record the exam at select centres. Even if students go out to drink water, the entire proceedings need to be video graphed as we need to have all the evidence."

Sources said that the videographers have been hired to ensure that both the tests are recorded and even the officials or the other staff who enter the centres are captured in the camera.

Meanwhile, the officials ensure that the question papers are stored in a secret place and security will be enhanced till the question papers are distributed to the candidates.

An official said, "There have been paper leaks in the past. In fact, during the first-ever TET in 2014, a tout was arrested by the Bengaluru police just the night before the test for allegedly selling TET question papers for one lakh rupees per paper. The police then got a tip-off and saw some fishy action going on just before the crackdown as they saw a queue in front of a house in the Mahalakshmi Layout. Upon inquiry, the police learnt the people were waiting to procure a TET question paper. So, this time, we don't want to take any chances and have followed all the safety protocols."

> **"The PSI exam scam had shocked the state. This is an important exam and we don't want to take any chances** – An exam official

Earlier, the education department had drafted a proposal of detaining suspects before exams and releasing them only after the examination process is completed. However, this proposal remained on paper and was never executed.

The test is conducted once a year. However, candidates are now demanding the authorities conduct the test twice a year. TET is one of the essential qualifications for a person to be eligible for appointment as a teacher in any of the schools as per the RTE Act. The rationale for including TET as a minimum qualification for appointment as a teacher is to bring national standards and benchmark for teacher quality in the recruitment process, inducing teacher education institutions and students from these institutions to further improve their performance and to send a positive signal to all stakeholders that the government lays special emphasis on teacher quality.

Moon to wear crimson shades

After a partial solar eclipse, it is now time to watch the lunar eclipse in Bengaluru. Unlike the other parts of the world, the lunar eclipse will be partial in the city and can be visible to the naked eye (provided there are no clouds) for around 30 minutes.

Scientists from Jawaharlal Nehru Planetarium told Bangalore Mirror, "On November 8, a partial lunar eclipse will be visible in the evening sky. Though it will be seen as a partial eclipse in India, it will be a full eclipse in a large part of the world, especially the western parts of North America, eastern Russia, Japan and New Zealand. Totality in a few cities will also be visible for a short duration in a few eastern parts of India. Many Cities like Kohima, Agartala and Guwahati will see a complete lunar eclipse."

The total solar eclipse phase will end at 5.12 pm. In Bengaluru, the partially eclipsed moon will rise at 5.49 pm and the partial eclipse can be seen till 6.19 pm. Later, the penumbral phase of the eclipse will continue and the eclipse will get over by 7.30 pm. Unlike a solar eclipse, the lunar eclipse will be safe to watch either through naked eyes or through a telescope, they added.

A lunar eclipse occurs on a full moon night when the earth appears between the sun and the moon and the face of the moon gets darkened for a certain period as it passes through the shadow of the earth. If you miss this lunar eclipse, then you have to wait till October 2023 when a minor partial eclipse will be observed in the country. However, one has to wait till September 7, 2025, to watch the next total lunar eclipse in the country.

CITY	DURATION OF THE ECLIPSE
Bengaluru	30
Mysuru	25
Bellary	30
Mangaluru	18
Dharwad	22
Karwar	18
Raichur	33
Bagalkot	22
Chamarajanagar	25

* in minutes

Another scientist said, "Bengalureans will not be able to view the total eclipse because the phenomena will be in progress before the moon rise. A lunar eclipse takes place when the moon enters the shadow of the earth. On such a night, the earth is directly between the moon and the sun blocking the sunlight from reaching the moon. Since the moon and sun are on opposite sides of the earth the event takes place on a full moon night. If a lunar eclipse is total, then in about one hour, the moon gets completely inside the shadow of the earth. At this time, the colour of the lunar disc is red and its many hues like crimson, black and red etc."

— BMB

Slow coaches: Trains to airport running on empty

Only 13 takers on average for MEMU daily; activists say punctuality & lack of stops an issue

Garima Prasher
c-garima.prasher
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The Mainline Electric Multiple Units (Memu) service introduced three months ago by the South Western Railway (SWR) is still struggling to gain patronage. As per the official ridership data, on average, only about 13 passengers are using all MEMU trains combined daily to travel to the Kempegowda International Airport.

In short, the Memu service report card, after completing 100 days of operation, is still not impressive. The data shared by SWR shows that while the trains were used by 520 passengers in August to commute to the airport, only 347 people boarded the trains in September and 350 passengers availed of this service in October. The total revenue generated over the three months of operation is to the tune of Rs 32,000 only.

Rail activists say the need of the hour is to improve high punctuality and reliability of the service. Also, while there is a demand to halt the trains at intermediate stations such as Bettahalsur and Doddajala, no action has been taken by SWR so far.

File photo of an awareness campaign conducted by citizens to popularise train services to airport

"We met the officials of SWR a month ago. We were informed the present schedules of the trains are all as per BIAL's requirements and that SWR is awaiting suggestions from BIAL for changes. We stressed on the need to maintain punctuality and reliability while requesting services from Heelalige and Whitefield and providing stops for all trains at all intermediate stations. But, we have not heard from them," said Rajkumar Dugar, a rail activist and founder and convenor, Citizens for Citizens. Passengers rue the fact that feedback by commuters such as extending all MEMU Services to Chikkaballapura is not being considered by SWR, leading to low footfall.

"Memu trains will get more passengers if they stop at intermediate stations. Extending the trains up to Chikkaballapura will also fetch more passengers. There are many students who study in various colleges in Chikkaballapura and can use this service," said Mahesh N, a student and a train enthusiast.

According to the officials at Bengaluru International Airport Limited (BIAL), a slew of measures have already been sent to all the community members including BIAL staff. "While the airport community includes 30,000 people, BIAL has only 1,400 staffers and almost all of them are provided with transport. Also, we have conducted an awareness campaign regarding the Memu train service and there are posters put up at crucial points. We are also sending emails and updating the staff on train timings. We have also sent a feedback form to all our community members to ask what changes they would like to see," said a source from BIAL.

BangaloreMirror
A fizzled-out ride that is Memu

BM has been reporting about passengers' demands to make the trains more attractive

Activists say that ensuring the success of the Memu service is in the interests of the city at least until any other mode of public transport is available.

Honey-trap gang bust: 10 arrested

With the arrest of ten people, including two women, the police on Saturday claimed to have busted a honey-trap gang operating in the state. The police acted on the complaint filed by Jairam, a staff at the High Court.

According to police, Jairam got introduced to one Anuradha two years ago in the court. She again met him six months ago and took a hand loan of Rs 10,000. After returning the money, she again sought Rs 5,000 as loan from him in October.

Jairam visited her residence and gave the money but while coming out of the house, he was overpowered by four men who dragged him back and demanded Rs 2 lakh.

One of the accused then called up Jairam's wife and children and told them that he had attempted to rape his wife. Later, Jairam lodged a case of robbery against the accused in Kamakshipalya police station.

The police, who took up the investigations, found that the accused from Davanagere city had formed a gang to mint money through honey-trapping. The gang was also involved in rowdy activities. The police suspect that the gang had trapped many victims and are investigating the case.

– IANS

Halt! BBMP to go back to the drawing board

Facing flak from residents, Palike puts Sankey Tank entrance work on hold for redesigning

Melvin Mathew
c-melvin.mathew
@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

Following opposition from Sadashivanagar residents, the Sankey Tank entrance remodelling has been halted and BBMP is redesigning it. Residents had raised objections to the height of the upcoming board displaying the name of the lake leading to obstruction of the scenic view.

Calling it an unnecessary construction, residents of Sadashivanagar objected to the new plan to remodel the entrance of the Sankey Tank. The old gate is being redesigned to provide an uplift to the famous lake thronged by countless people from far and wide.

Additionally, a new board that was supposed to be erected displaying the name of the lake in both English and Kannada has caught the residents' ire.

Sapna, a resident who has lived in the area for 30 years, objected to the design and said, "Right at the entrance, a wall is being built which we found out was to display the words 'Sankey Tank Park'.The wall will destroy the openness of the lake and obstruct the view of the lake when commuting along the stretch. It looks like the wall will be nine feet tall. This is an eyesore for Sadashivanagar."

Like-minded residents held a signature campaign and 30 people objected to the move.

Another resident, Naina Bhat said that Sankey Tank is a beautiful ecosystem for a wide range of birds. "When I first moved here to Sadashivanagar 40 years ago, the lake was the best-kept secret. There was no fencing and slowly walking paths and gates were built. For the past three years, construction has been ongoing with no end. Now, there is new construction happening at the gate area. As per the drawings shared by officials, it resembles an educational institution's entrance," she added.

Construction material has been placed near Sankey Tank to build a wall (top); Above: Artist's impression of the final outcome

According to sources, work is also in progress to build a link bridge completing the walking and jogging path circuit.

"To make the lake disabled-friendly, ramps are being built at the entrance. Almost 30 acres are a lake and the rest 10 acres are a park area. Using very limited concrete work, small development work is being taken up. We are also asking to extend the visiting timing for at least by one hour for the lake as new lightings are likely to open by Nov 15. Near the entrance, a health cabin will come up. A link bridge is also being planned to connect an unconnected section of the Malleshwaram entrance to the rest of the Sankey Tank," he added.

BBMP officials clarified that the project to remodel the entrance has been put on hold due to residents protesting.

"There is construction ongoing to remodel the gate area but the board has been put on hold. Additionally, a security room and 24X7 room for women's safety are coming up. A ten feet board was envisioned to display the lake name but now we are planning to redesign it. Sadashivanagar residents had raised objections to the wall. Work has been temporarily halted," said a BBMP official.

> **"A 10-ft board was envisioned to display the lake name but now we are planning to redesign it. Residents had raised objections to the wall**
>
> – BBMP official

Pollution check: Vehicles scan

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Bengaluru for instance might not be plying here. However, if you match the number of PUC certificates issued with the RTO registration record, this is very low," said Dr Ashish Verma of the Sustainable Transportation Lab at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc). An inconsiderable rise in the PUC certificates being issued by the state despite the amendment to the Motor Vehicles Act in 2019, which fixed a higher penalty amount for an outdated PUC certificate, is a cause of concern as well, according to experts.

Notably, the Karnataka government had slashed the penalties for traffic violations under the amended Motor Vehicle Act of 2019, including for vehicles without permits. While the penalty for violation of permit condition was Rs 10,000 under the amended act, it was dropped to Rs 5,000 after public demand.

"Even after the government slashed the penalty by half, the amount is still higher than in the pre-amendment era. The fine amount should act as a probable deterrent," said another city based mobility expert.

Mobility advocates are of the view that the onus lies on corruption-free and technology-driven enforcement of the mandatory requirement. "While the penalty amount set by the government is a good deterrent, a continuous mechanism for checking the vehicles for PUC certificate is the need of the hour. Unless there is a robust round-the-clock mechanism and technology based enforcement concerning how violations are recorded and penalised, tailpipe emission will be difficult to control," said Dr Verma.

Avijit Michael, executive director of Jhatkaa.org, was in agreement and told BM that there are many vehicles that are not obtaining PUC certificates and orders should be given to traffic police to check the certificate more strictly.

"PUC certificate rule must be enforced in its true spirit to ensure a reduction in tailpipe emissions. The traffic police must be more vigilant with a technology driven approach to crack the whip on defaulters," Michael told BM.

Brothel customer can't be 'let off hook'

The Karnataka High Court has refused to quash a case under the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act and Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act against a 44-year-old man from Kasaragod in neighbouring Kerala, who claimed he was a customer in a brothel and should be let off.

The courts have on earlier occasions let off customers arrested in raids on brothels and charged under the ITP. In this case though, the single judge bench of Justice M Nagaprasanna said, "It is in those cases under the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, those customers have been let off the hook. The case at hand is not one of that kind. The offences do not stop at POCSO but even under the Information Technology Act for having threatened the victim that her videos would be uploaded on multiple websites." The man is accused number seven in the case.

The senior advocate appearing for him submitted before the court that "the petitioner was only a customer who was introduced by accused No.1 and being a customer who had indulged in alleged sexual intercourse with the complainant, a minor cannot be proceeded against..." – PTI

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Who will clean this mess?

Dasarahalli Road

BWSSB has failed to clear up after digging a road near the Brigade Triumph building on Dasarahalli Road, which is blocking traffic.

Not a flex

Padmanabhanagar

Flex boards all over Padmanabhanagar ward which is a disturbance to traffic and the public.

Encroachment alert!

JP Nagar

There has been encroachment on the footpath Opposite Aster RV Hospital on 11/24th Main JP Nagar.

THE SUNDAY READ

Climate-proof plan

Expert stresses on long-term planning to mitigate climate change risk to city

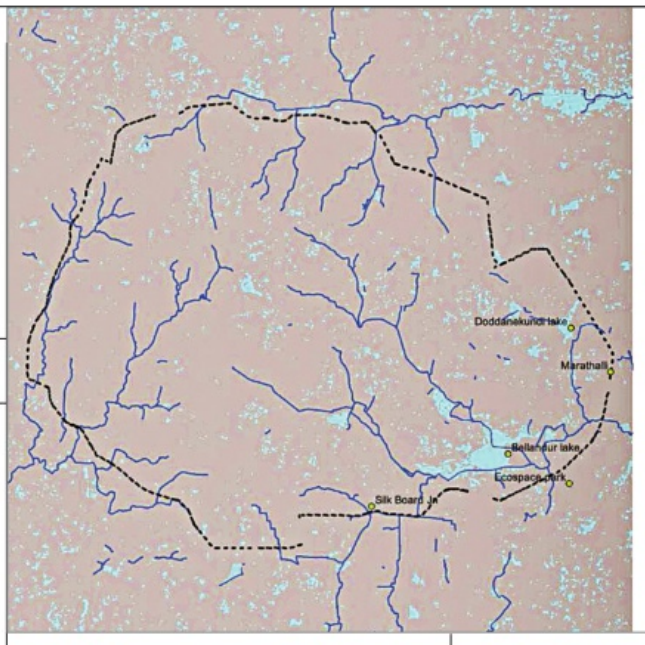
Sridhar.Vivan
@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @sridharVMIRROR

Whenever it rains, misery and sleepless nights follow for many Bengalureans. Many localities in the city have been flooded more than once this year. In fact, a few localities were flooded seven times this year alone. So, is flooding in the city a perennial problem or can there be any solutions in the near future?

Meghna Agarwala (Assistant professor of environmental studies, Ashoka University) told Bangalore Mirror that there needs to be long-term urban planning to mitigate climate risk. "Flooding occurs when inflowing water exceeds out flowing water. The factors influencing inflowing water are precipitation and water flowing in from upstream areas. Factors influencing out flowing water are natural factors such as surface run-off and ground infiltration, and human-made factors such as constructions on storm water drains. Many recent reports on flooding in Bengaluru have focussed on the inadequate maintenance and construction of storm water drains, but there are larger issues at play: climate change and urban planning."

In India, climate change has led to a change in precipitation patterns. Agarwala says that in many areas, rainfall quantity that would otherwise extend over a longer time period is now coming in much shorter durations of time. "This means that an area's inherent capacity to absorb incoming water is tested by higher-than-average water volume. In 2022, Bengaluru certainly received an unusually high amount of rainfall (Down to Earth reports that this was the highest rainfall in a single day in September since 2014; there was flooding in 2014 as well). However, given that climate change is likely to create such situations again, what lessons can we learn from this flood?"

She said that encroachment of wetlands and floodplains is also important to examine. "First, many of Bengaluru's natural channels for water movement have been obstructed by construction. In fact, some roads are, constructed on water channels. Given that this is the natural flow of water, any construction on these river channels will cause flooding in the constructed areas, as is the case of flooding near the Silk Board junction on Outer Ring Road (see map where you can see that the natural water channel overlaps with the Outer Ring Road for about 2.2 km)," she says.



This map shows an overlap of the natural water channel with the Outer Ring Road for about 2 km. When natural flow of water is obstructed, the result is floods of the kind the city is witnessing of late

> **Many of Bengaluru's natural channels for water movement have been obstructed by construction. Some roads are constructed on water channels**
> –Meghna Agarwala, Assistant professor of environmental studies, Ashoka University

Record-breaking rain

In fact, this year Bengaluru's rain broke all the records as it recorded an excess of 170 cm. Experts say that the rainy days in the city have increased by 70% this year. Agarwala says that Bengaluru's natural storage structures have been encroached upon. "For example, Bellandur Lake is the largest lake in Bengaluru and originally had a water storage capacity of 17.66 million cubic feet. However, construction on the Bellandur Lake means that the water storage capacity of this lake is compromised. The south and southeast of Bengaluru are the low-lying areas and water flows in that direction, and gets stored in the lakes there before moving out of the region. The impact of this natural flow pattern can be clearly seen in that the areas impacted by flooding mostly lie in the south or southeast regions."

She says that the water infiltration into the ground requires the ground cover to be permeable. Bare soil and parks have permeable ground cover that allows water to infiltrate into the ground. Concrete surfaces do not allow water to infiltrate or percolate but increase surface run-off. This is one of the reasons why many experts have been opposing the concretisation of roads as the percolation of water decreases.

"This suggests that long-term urban planning in Bengaluru-where roads are constructed on water channels that will naturally flood even at lower precipitation levels, where there is construction and encroachment of lakes which could otherwise have stored excess water volume, and where there is lack of planning for open spaces such as parks and other non-paved land uses that could otherwise have also served as an outlet for excess water—may have created conditions that further reduce the city's resistance and resilience to increased intensity of rainfall, an already witnessed fall out of climate change that is expected to occur with increasing frequency," Agarwala added.

real estate

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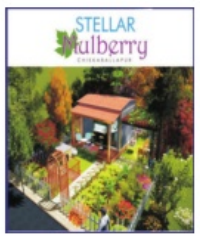

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14th Oct 13th Nov 2022

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Bengaluru
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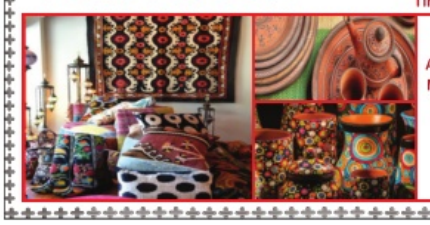

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personal

CHANGE OF NAME

I G M Yeshvanthkumar S/O, Malledevaru G V R/o Flat No.201, S.r Villa, 4th Cross, Sri Sathya Saibaba Layout, Kodigehalli Main Road, Krishnarajapuram, Bengaluru - 560036 have changed my name to Yashavanthakumar G M

I, THEJESWINI H D/o Harish Bilkere Narasingrao, Resident of No.14, 5th Cross, AECS Lay out, Ashram Colony, RMV 2nd Stage, Sanjaynagar, Bangalore-560094 have changed my name to THEJESWINI H RAO vide affidavit dated 29.10.2022 sworn before notary Renuka .C, B.lore

I, Sanjeev Kumar Bansal, Residing at No.E-201, Premier Gruhalakshmi Apartments, Near Ayyappa Temple, Jalahalli Cross, Peenya Samll Industries, Bangalore-560058 have changed my name to SANJEEV BANSAL S/o. Deenadayal Bansal Vide affidavit dated: 04.11.2022 Sworn before notary: V.Anjanappa, Bangalore

I, SANGEETHA G D/O Gangadhar residing at No.2, Shreekant layout,Varanasi main road, Jinkethimanahalli, B'lore- 560036 have changed my name to SANGEETHA KARTHIK vide affidavit dated 02.11.2022 sworn before notary Uday Kumar.K, Bangalore.

I, Shweta G P D/O Pavan Gujjar, R/o # 5/1 A, Savan Residency, 12th Cross, Kanakanagar, Bangalore North, Bangalore, Karnataka-560032 have changed my name to Shwetha Gujjar

I, Shekhar Tiwari R/o Unique Concord Apartment, B 010, Ground Floor Tatanagar-Devinagar B'lore-92 Changed My Name Shekhar Tewari to Shekhar Tiwari for All Future Purposes.

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I Sushma W/O, Kartik Murgod R/o 001, Jaya Krishna Mahalakshmi Enclave, Ecc Road, Pattandhur Aghrahara Whitefield 560066 have changed my name to Sushma Murgod

I, Stuti Parihar R/O No. 37, Flat 301(3rd floor), 60 feet road, Nagashettyhalli, Amarajyoti Layout, B'lore-94 changed my name Stuti Prihar to Stuti Parihar for all future purposes.

I, Mariyam P W/O abdul kareen R/o 146/9 6th cross basavalingappa nagar jakkur post ,Sampigehalli village b'lore 560064 have changed my name to mariyam

I, Amitabh Verma s/o Krishna Kumar Verma residing at A-36 Chitrakut basil Kaggadaspura 560093 have changed my minor daughter's name from Bhriti to Nysha Verma

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HOP ON REHAB MOBILE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The project will be started across five locations in Bengaluru, at MS Palya, Whitefield, Kothanur, Hebbal and Hosakote, wherein the services will be started from the next week.

The rehab on wheels van has a team of professionals onboard to extend service and provide appropriate intervention for children with developmental delay, Persons with Disabilities (PwDs), elderly who have limited access to need-based rehabilitation services, a supportive ecosystem and social inclusion.

The idea of rehab on wheels (RoW) was triggered during the times of pandemic-imposed restrictions — the PwDs and elderly were severely affected due to immobility syndromes with pain, weakness, restricted joint mobility, cardiorespiratory deconditioning and secondary complications like bedsores, contractures, and deformity.

In addition, the challenges associated with commuting and the cost involved made rehabilitation non-accessible and unaffordable.

“If people want to contribute on their own will, then they are free to do so. The facility provided will be free of cost

Senthil NS Kumar, the CEO of The Association of People with Disability said RoW is designed with unique features like electrotherapy, exercise therapy, sensory integration room, diagnostic audiometry and BERA (brainstem evoked response audiometry) alongside mobility training devices. The vehicle is made accessible for wheelchair users through a hydraulic lift at the rear end. An audiovisual device shall create awareness and equip the community on prevention, promotion and intervention for various ailments as well.

The facility provided will be free of cost. “If people want to contribute on their own will, then they are free to do so. People who require further medical care will be referred to hospitals like the St John’s Medical College Hospital and Baptist Hospital as we have tied up with them,” Kumar told BM.

The vehicle will operate on five different geographies on a weekly basis where it has multiple service focal points like PHCs, govt hospitals, special schools, old age homes, orphanages, NGOs and communities.

APD’s goal is to reach out to over 3,000 people with disabilities — the elderly and those suffering from painful conditions could be benefited from this project in the next one year. More than 10,000 comprehensive services are expected to be delivered through the model.

“The goal is to reach the unreachable at the last mile, meet the needs of people with disabilities and those suffering from painful conditions relating to paediatrics to geriatrics, and particularly helping those in need of therapy, aids and appliances, social security schemes, through accessible mobile rehabilitation facilities. This pilot project will help us to codify and replicate the model in multiple locations where there is a need for rehabilitation,” Kumar said.

The project was funded as part of a corporate social responsibility initiative by ABB India.

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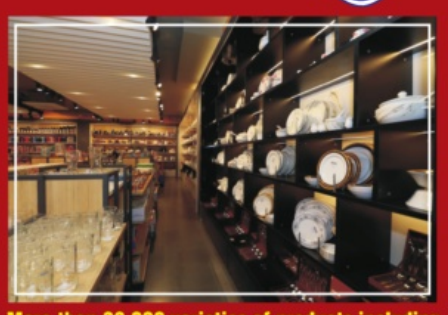

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Not music to all ears

A case has been registered against three senior Congress leaders including Rahul Gandhi for alleged unauthorised usage of the music from the blockbuster Kannada film 'KGF-2' during the party's 'Bharat Jodo Yatra'.

The FIR was registered in the Yeshwanthpur police station on Friday under the provisions of Copyright Act, the Information Technology Act and the Indian Penal Code against Gandhi, Jairam Ramesh and Supriya for using KGF-2 music for the ongoing Bharat Jodo Yatra, led by Rahul Gandhi on a complaint lodged by M Naveen Kumar, who manages MRT music. The complainant alleged that Jairam Ramesh had on his official twitter handle posted two videos of the yatra, in which popular songs from KGF-2 film were used without permission.–PTI

PAGE 16 **HEAVY ROLE** Actresses who have gained weight for their filmy characters

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INOX	Value Mall - Whitefield : 4.25 & 9.50 pm | Lido : 10.00 pm Garuda Mall - Magrath Road : 4.25 & 9.30 pm RMZ Mall - Jaya Nagar : 12.05 & 10.30 pm Mantri Square Mall - Malleshwaram : 1.00 & 10.25 pm Garuda - Yalahanka : 1.00 pm | Central : 9.40 pm SBR Horizon -Tumkar : 11.40 am & 7.35 pm
Bharath Cinemas	Mangaluru : 10.00 pm Kundapura : 7.00 pm Shimoga : 4.45 pm
GOPALAN CINEMAS	Innovation Mall, Bannerghatta Main Road, 7.00 pm
DRC MYSORE	Mysore : 10.45 am & 7.20 pm
KIN CINEMAS	Kadugodi : 4.00 & 10.00 pm
	and other cinemas.

farnaz PARAS

Conman poses as MLA to influence KSRTC transfer

A man posing as BJP MLA L Nagendra who wanted to influence the transfer of a driver-cum-conductor in the Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC) has been arrested.

According to a KSRTC official, the conman, who has been identified as Punith (30) from Malavalli in Mandya district, rang up the managing director of the corporation V Anbukumar on October 28, posing as the MLA who represents Chamaraja constituency in Mysuru.

"A person called the mobile number of the managing director, KSRTC, and told the latter: I, Nagendra MLA, Mysuru, speaking, Pl consider transfer of Balaraj driver-cum-conductor from Mandya Depot to Malavalli Depot as he has family issues."

On the direction of the MD, the divisional controller of Mandya Division called Nagendra to get some details and found that he had not called Anbukumar.

In this regard, Balaraj was summoned and questioned who confessed that Puntith, who said to be working at the KSRTC central office, has helped him in getting the transfer through the MD.

Taking note of the matter, Security and Vigilance Department immediately acted upon and collected preliminary evidence.

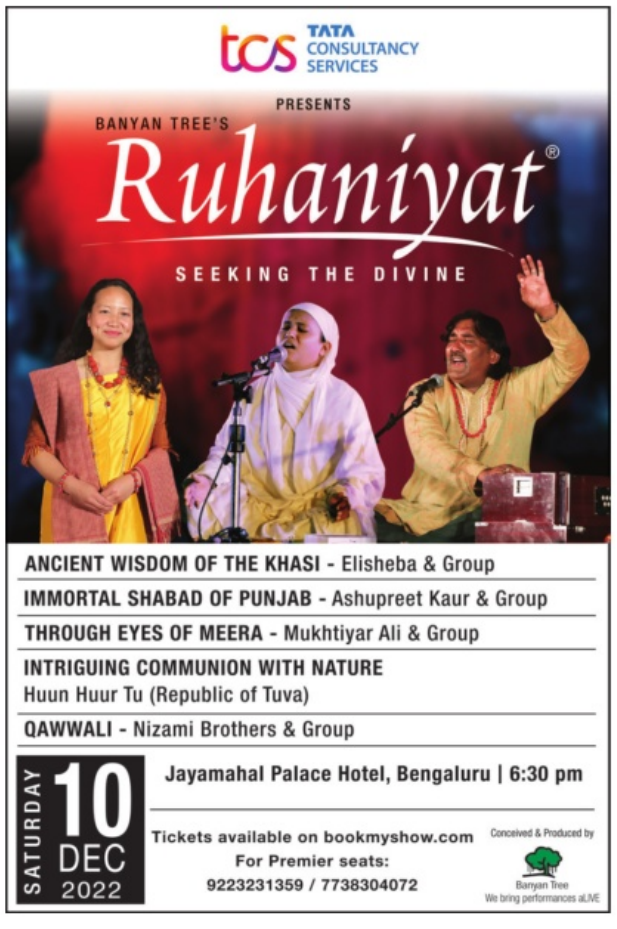
Based on a complaint lodged by the KSRTC, the swindler was arrested, the police said. **–PTI**

Cops negligent over probe: Bereaved MLA

Karnataka BJP MLA MP Renukacharya on Saturday expressed displeasure over "negligence" by the police department in handling the death case of his nephew Chandrashekar. "If the son (Renukacharya calls his nephew as his son) of MLA can't be given protection, what will be common men's plight?" Renukacharya said.

His nephew Chandrashekar's decomposed body was recovered from a canal on Thursday. The police department maintained that the incident had happened due to over speeding of the car. While, suspicions were raised on Chandrashekar being kidnapped and murdered.

Renukacharya told reporters: "It is a pre-planned murder. My son has been brutally tortured and killed. The negligence of the police department is clearly visible. My party workers and supporters had used drone cameras. They have detected the car. All this is being done by people of my constituency. Police did not do any of it." **–IANS**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Gas pipeline work hits roadblock in Mysuru

Delay in fee payment by firm that is digging roads to lay pipes puts brakes on project

The gas pipeline works in Mysuru had stirred a political battle within the BJP. BJP MP Pratap Simha was pitted against local MLA Nagendra and both sides had traded barbs against each other over allowing a gas pipeline in Mysuru.

Simha batted for the pipeline claiming it was PM Narendra Modi's pet project and that piped gas would help the Mysureans. However, Nagendra argued the pipeline laying would destroy the newly laid roads and so permission should not be accorded. Finally, Simha won the first round of battle as permission was granted for laying the pipeline. However, the latest news from Mysuru is the pipeline works is stuck in a limbo.

The work is halted over the issue of delay in payment from the company entrusted with road digging.

The contractor had to pay Rs.10 crore to the Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) for granting permission for pipeline laying on 45 km of the road. As the pipeline works were to be extended, the MCC demanded more money. Hence for time being, MCC has asked the contractor to stop the work.

An official from the contractor's firm said, "We had begun the digging work in the Hebbal industrial area and started laying gas pipelines on the ring road. We have already paid Rs.10 crore for laying a pipeline in a 45-km road coming under the wards 20, 47, and 3. We have already installed meters at a few houses which have agreed for the piped gas connection. Now, we have applied for permission to dig up extra road length. However, the officials are asking for extra money for every additional three km. We have asked for permission again but it has not been granted and so the work has been stopped."

Works of natural gas pipeline in progress along the Ring Road of Mysuru (file photo)

> **"We have given them the chance to install the pipeline in a phased manner. As they have not paid the fee for installing the new pipeline, we have not permitted it** –Shivakumar, Mysuru Mayor

Initially, the company planned to provide a pipeline of 500 km in length in Mysuru. But now, it is extending the pipeline to all the layouts and the pipeline is likely to be extended to a length of around 800 km.

The official said, "We are installing a gas pipeline of 45 km length in the city. In the remaining places, the work will continue after getting permission from the corporation."

Reacting to this, Mayor Shivakumar said, "We have given them the opportunity to install the pipeline in a phased manner. As they have not paid the fee for installing the new pipeline, we have not permitted it. When we receive the fee, we will grant the additional permission."

The gas pipeline will be installed in 65 wards in the city covering a total of 800 km gas pipeline. This includes a 27 km pipeline on Ring Road as well. **–Prakash VL**

Temporary age relaxation for constable posts

Saumyangi Yadav
c-saumyangi.yadav@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

After repeated protests by the job aspirants, the age limit for the police constable posts in Karnataka has been relaxed by two years.

The age relaxation will be applicable to the process of recruiting 3,484 police constables in the Central Armed Reserve (CAR) and District Armed Reserve (DAR), and 1,591 police constable (civil).

However, it is a temporary relaxation limited to existing notifications for this year. A permanent relief hasn't been provided yet despite the aspirants' protests.

Bhavya Narasimhamurthy, President of Karnataka State Competitive Examination Aspirants Association (KSCEAA), told Bangalore Mirror a government order was passed on Thursday. "There is a one-time relaxation of two years for the current pending notifications. There are two notifications amounting to around 4,000 posts currently for which the age has been relaxed," she said.

Karnataka has the lowest age limit for police constable posts

The age limit for the posts currently is 25 years for general merit and 27 years for OBC/SC/ST categories. The aspirants have been demanding for the age to be increased to 30 and 32 years respectively on a permanent basis. "This has been one of our major demands but the chief minister is reluctant to consider it. After putting so much pressure we have been able to achieve this but that too just for one time and for the pending notifications only," Narasimhamurthy added.

Some aspirants are now also worried that because of this one-time age relaxation, the competition will also increase for the posts of a police constable.

"All this while for around 3,000 posts, around 4 lakh people used to apply. Now, it might double so the competition will be huge. I don't know why they are so reluctant to increase the age limit permanently," she added.

As compared to other states, Karnataka has the lowest age limit for armed police constable posts. In other states such as Gujarat, the age limit is 35 years for the general merit and 38 for reserved categories. The new notice has received mixed reactions from job aspirants.

"We wanted a relaxation of five years but they have given two years only. Although the students are not happy, some of them are relieved by the notice. The younger aspirants are especially unhappy since the competition for these particular pending posts will be doubled and they will have to compete with their seniors now. While other students who were at the edge have been granted two extra years," the KSCEAA president said.

The government order has cited the pandemic as the reason for the relaxation.

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BENGALURU SPEAKS

and gets heard on this page

STORYBEHINDTHEPHOTO

CAUGHT YOU!

An eagle eyes its mid-day snack catch at Bandipur National Park.

The picture was clicked by reader **Col KV Nair**

If you have a picture and a story to share, send us the picture with your name and number at **mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com**

Go slow: Dangerous underpass ahead

Commuters say Hennur Road underpass road is broken, needs urgent repair

Shreyashi Mukherjee
c-shreyashi.m
@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

There are several dents on the Hennur Road underpass making it a wobbly ride for commuters

Despite repeated complaints and a few mishaps being reported from here, authorities are yet to take up work

Commuters on Hennur Road are concerned about the pathetic state of the underpass situated on Outer Ring Road. They say that the stretch is quite risky and that authorities will do well to fix it immediately before any mishap occurs.

Many commuters BM spoke to told us that already the stretch has witnessed a number of accidents. Hitesh Raj, a commuter, said, "I use this road regularly and I have faced a number of issues while commuting through this stretch of road. Even my vehicle has suffered a lot of damages. If serious work is not done, then the accidents will continue to happen."

The commuters have said because of the deplorable condition of this underpass, they wish a different route were available for them to reach KR Puram. Nandesh Kumar, a commuter, said, "Commuting on this road is a nightmare. The road is broken and uneven. I go to KR Puram on this route. I take this route as that is the only way to KR Puram. If there were another well-maintained road, all would use that."

Ashok K also has been staying around the area for the last few years. "I have heard about a lot of accidents that took place at this underpass. This is why a lot of people are even scared to use this route but they stick to it because there is no other road available. Despite all the mishaps, the authorities have not looked into the matter and made any repairs to the road."

The commuters often say that they are scared to go through this underpass. Vijay Nayak, another commuter, said, "I feel anxious while driving through this underpass. I am always extra careful and drive very slowly as I want to cause no harm to myself or others. This is not how one should feel while driving through the city. The route should be fixed as soon as possible."

The commuters have also said that despite the several complaints raised, no action was taken by the authorities.

A BBMP official said, "We shall try to work on it and try to resolve the issues faced by the people as soon as it is possible."

DID YOU KNOW?

Jayanagar was the first extension of Bangalore and its foundation was laid in 1948. It was the first planned neighbourhood in the city and at the time it was created, it was the largest of such neighbourhoods in Asia. Jayanagar was traditionally regarded as the southern end of Bangalore. The "South End Circle", where six roads meet, and the historic Ashoka Pillar that was to mark the southern end are proof of this. PS Ranganatha Char was the contractory for this pillar and he is said to have been asked to get the pillar built in 10 days. This pillar was to mark the birth of the area and now as various developments continue around it, it still stands testimony to the first planned neighbourhood of the city.

GET HEARD WITH MIRROR

9591233247

Let's see how much you know about Namma Bengaluru, folks. Tell us something incredible and mind-boggling about this beautiful city and our editors and researchers will check it out. If it's credible, we'll give it a shout-out, with your name and picture.

TAPTHECHATTER

where Bengalureans speak their mind

Which is your favourite park in the city and how has it changed over time?

Anil Kumar, BM Reader
Cubbon park - The serenity and calmness of the place is now missing and it has become more crowded with the traffic.

Adiyta Kamble, BM Reader
One of my favourites is Freedom Park, because it is a symbol of freedom struggle. It was inaugurated in February 2009 by BJP leader LK Advani. The park was redesigned later and now, it has turned into a site for protests, but exhibitions and meetings are also held here.

Mohona Bhattacharya BM Reader
My favourite park is Sankey Tank. The road around it makes for a pleasant walk. However, over the years there have been a lot of constructions. Once it is done, I feel like it will be more beautiful.

Ajin Ashok, BM Reader
My favourite has to be Cubbon park. The trees and being among nature make it so appealing. Initially, it was spick and span, however, a lot of littering is seen these days.

Mohammed Irshad, BM Reader
Cubbon Park is one of my favourite parks, which is bestowed with rich flora and fauna and is known for its rich biodiversity. I feel that it is way cleaner and hygienic now.

Tanisha K, Freelance Model
I love Freedom Park. The vibe of the park is immaculate. I think over the years it has changed for good, it has become a place for people to come together and express their views and opinions. I find that quite empowering.

SPEAK TO US

Elections are almost upon us. What is the one demand you will make from the politicians who seek your vote?

If you want to be featured in this section, mail us your answer to this question, in 25 words, with 'Tap The Chatter' in the subject line. Mail us with your name, occupation & a picture at mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com or WhatsApp us on 9591233247

Tracking floods
Google has expanded its AI flood forecasting services, first introduced in India in 2018, to 18 other countries

BangaloreMirror | 12
Sunday, November 6, 2022
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Bird's pecking order

Almost half of Twitter's 7,600 strong workforce fired; hundreds lose jobs in India

#San Francisco/New Delhi

In one of the most brutal sacking the tech world has ever seen, Elon Musk has ruthlessly fired almost half of Twitter's 7,600-strong workforce, leaving several departments completely shut across the globe, including in India.

Teams focused on trust and safety issues were hit the hardest, including those tasked with defending against election misinformation ahead of the US midterms on November 8, reports The Verge.

The Twitter verticals that were the worst-hit included product trust and safety, policy, communications, tweet curation, ethical AI, data science, research, machine learning, social good, accessibility, and certain core engineering teams.

Arnaud Weber, VP of consumer product engineering and Tony Haile, a senior director of product, were also laid off.

"I'm also consciously uncoupled from Twitter. It's a weird day, people on either side of the 50 per cent aren't sure whether to be grateful or gutted," tweeted Haile, a former Twitter Frontiers Lead.

Those who are left at the company are uncertain about their future. "Woke up to the news that my time working at Twitter has come to an end. I am heartbroken. I am in denial. It's been the best, craziest, most rewarding ride of my career. I have loved every single minute of it," posted Michele Austin, a former Twitter employee.

Twitter headquarters stands on the intersection of Market Street and 10th Street in San Francisco

In India, most of its over 200-member team were shown the door by Musk According to sources, marketing, engineering and communications departments were the worst-hit.

Twitter has been sued in the US for mass layoffs without giving employees advance written notice.

Those whose jobs were saved are living in constant fear about losing their jobs in the next round, which they think will happen soon.

Employees in other countries were notified that their roles have been "identified as potentially impacted or at risk of redundancy". The employee FAQ said that "roughly 50 per cent of the workforce will be impacted" by the layoffs.

Musk was "looking forward to communicating with everyone about his vision for the company soon". Twitter has been sued in the US for mass layoffs without giving employees advance written notice.

The lawsuit has been filed in the US District Court in the Northern District of California, in violation of worker protection laws including the federal Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification Act as well as the California WARN Act, both of which require 60 days of advance notice. **IANS**

A look at key teams axed

As per Tech Crunch, key Twitter teams including Human Rights, Accessibility, AI Ethics and Curation have been axed so far by the Tesla CEO.

Human Rights

In a tweet, former Twitter Human Rights Counsel Shannon Raj Singh shared news that the company's human rights team was eliminated on Friday. "Yesterday was my last day at Twitter: the entire Human Rights team has been cut from the company. I am enormously proud of the work we did to implement the UN Guiding Principles on Business & Human Rights, to protect those at-risk in global conflicts & crises including Ethiopia, Afghanistan, and Ukraine, and to defend the needs of those at risk of human rights abuse by virtue of their social media presence, such as journalists & human rights defenders," Shannon's post read.

Accessibility Experience

The news of axing of Accessibility Experience team of Twitter was confirmed by the former head of the particular department Gerard K. Cohen.

"I am officially no longer the Engineering Manager for the Accessibility Experience Team at Twitter. Along with me, my entire engineering team has been let go. Before I get into my own thoughts, I want to honor them. If you are looking to hire some brilliant accessibility engineers, keep reading," he tweeted. The team improved the product for people with disabilities. The team appears to have had a lot still in the works before it was disbanded, Tech Crunch reported.

Communications

It's not yet clear what parts of Twitter's communications team have been cut outright, but the cuts are deep enough that many prominent comms employees at the company were affected. "Twitter is so special. After 4 yrs, I'm leaving with the fullest, experiences I never imagined, and unbreakable bonds with so many Tweeps. My head is held high.@ TwitterComms: We have so much to be proud of..." a former employee at Twitter Communications tweeted.

Machine learning ethics, transparency and accountability

Musk dissolved a team known internally as META, which was respected for its exploratory work in ethical AI and algorithmic transparency. Rumman Chowdhury, the team's director, was eliminated, along with the team's engineers and other members.

Curation

According to Tech Crunch, Curation team was also axed. The team curated the moments tab, programmed the trending topics section, gave context on those topics and handled live events. The team also worked to fight misinformation.

Musk, on Saturday, defended his layoff decision as he stressed "unfortunately there is no choice". He shared that Twitter "is losing $ 4 million a day." **ANI**

BITS & BYTES

SURVEILLANCE RED FLAG

The mysticism that has allowed tech firms to make billions of dollars from surveillance is finally clearing, the boss of encrypted messaging app Signal told AFP.

Meredith Whittaker, who spent years working for Google before helping to organise a staff walkout in 2018 over working conditions, said tech was "valorised" and "fetishised" when she first began in the industry in 2006.

"The idea that technology represented the apex of innovation and progress was fairly pervasive in government circles and popular culture," she said in an interview on the sidelines of the Web Summit tech conference in Lisbon this week.

But legislators and users were now reckoning with the "well-documented harms of allowing a handful of large corporations to have the power to surveil almost every aspect of human life".

She said people were now seeking out apps like Signal because they appreciated the "real existential dangers of placing their most intimate thoughts, their locations, their friend networks in the hands of corporate and state surveillance actors". **AFP**

PASSWORD ATTACKS

The volume of password attacks has risen to an estimated 921 attacks every second globally -- a 74 per cent increase in just one year, a Microsoft report has said.

From July 2021 to June 2022, the tech giant's digital defence teams blocked 34.7 billion identity threats and 37 billion email threats.

According to the 'Digital Defence Report 2022', attackers are adapting and finding new ways to implement their techniques, thereby increasing the complexity of how and where they host campaign operation infrastructure.

Attacks against remote management devices are on the rise, with more than 100 million attacks observed in May 2022 -- a five-fold increase in the past year.

"To lower their overhead and boost the appearance of legitimacy, attackers are compromising business networks and devices to host phishing campaigns, malware, or even use their computing power to mine cryptocurrency," the findings showed.

Human operated ransomware is most prevalent, as one-third of targets are successfully compromised by criminals using these attacks and 5 per cent of those are ransomed. **IANS**

HEALTH TIP: Tuna is rich in vitamin D which helps the body absorb calcium

Pak Choi is rich in important trace elements such as potassium and calcium, which are good for normalising blood pressure and for healthy bones

BEAN THERE, DONE THIS

Former teacher, architect guide B'luru into nitty-gritty of coffee

Rohini Banerjee
c-rohini.banerjee
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

New cafes seem to pop up every other day in the city, but there's a new kid on the block that stands out from the rest. Nerlu café, located on Crescent Road, gives a fresh spin to the coffee experience.

'Nerlu' means shade in Kannada, and the cafe plays it out wonderfully by stating that the Arabica coffee is a shade growing plant and that the place hopes to be a canopy for several Indian roasters that don't have a retail space to sell.

Rather than being a conventional café selling their own coffee, Nerlus acts as a medium for coffee enthusiasts trying to discover truly unique and flavourful roasts. The brainchild of two friends, Shibani Murlidhar, a former teacher, and Rajiv Majumdar, an architect, the space was designed keeping in mind a modern European 'wabi sabi' theme that has both polished and unpolished elements.

Bangalore Mirror caught up with Shibani who gave us a sneak peek into their 'coffee library'.

"Rajiv and I have been friends for over 20 years. His firm designed the building in which Nerlus is located. We are both coffee drinkers, and he knows more about the academic side of coffee – be it marketing, coffee brewing, or the coffee scene in India. We were having a conversation sometime last year about there being so much good coffee in India and how it would be amazing to have a place where people could access some of that," she said.

"Some are available in cafes - especially cafes owned by roasters. But a lot of the roasters that exist, and there are more than 200, are selling online because they don't have a retail space. Coffee drinkers are always looking to try new roasts and we saw an opening in that market to start a nice place and have a sort of 'coffee library'."

That's how Nerlus was born.

It took shape and form when they found the perfect place for the café. Shibani said they did not want to make things too big because neither of them were from a F&B background, and that it was a passion project.

"We didn't even know if we would be able to run it. We took a small gamble. It was in a part of town that may not have walk-ins since it's not a high-street. Yes, there are lots of hotels in the stretch, but no other cafes, so we didn't know if we were taking a big risk. What I think worked in our favour is that no one else is a multi-roaster café in the city. Other shops are only serving one roaster. Either they themselves are roasting coffee, or they have a tie-up with an estate or a roaster. We are not bound by any of these affiliations and are open to all roasters for our manual blend coffee," she explained.

There are two kinds of coffees that Nerlus serves. The first is a type of coffee that's consistent, like a cappuccino, an espresso, or a latte that is machine-made. The second type is where the magic happens.

"We have this manual pour over menu that we call our 'coffee discovery menu'. There are so many roasters that are sourcing green beans from estates, and all of these estates are in Chikmagalur , Coorg, Kerala, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, and so on. Roasters around the country are buying beans from them and roasting the beans at different levels – light, medium, dark, and more. Every roaster has so many varieties of coffee they are selling, so we have a huge array to choose from. That's how we keep rotating and switching up the menu."

The café's menu is quite the chameleon, so there's never a dull coffee moment.

Every couple of weeks, they feature 10 different kinds of coffee that are manually brewed and are selected based on different things. Roasters get in touch with Nerlus and they try out their coffees, seeing what they like.

"Our new menu launches next week, and this time we're taking coffees from just one estate," said Shibani. "There's an estate in Chikmagalur called Ratnagiri, and lots of roasters buy from them. Even though the raw material is the same, the taste will be very different depending on how the roaster treats it. Our next menu is 10 coffees only from Ratnagiri, but from 10 different roasters," she added.

She told BM that they are always playing around with ideas to keep the menu diverse. One of the ideas that they are mulling is to have a Monsoon Malabar themed menu.

"An Indian coffee that's famous even outside the country is Monsoon Malabar. Many roasters do their own Monsoon Malabar. We have an idea where we would do just that for one of our menus."

The menu is either a carefully crafted mix of different coffees or arranged by theme such as estates, roast profile, and taste profile.

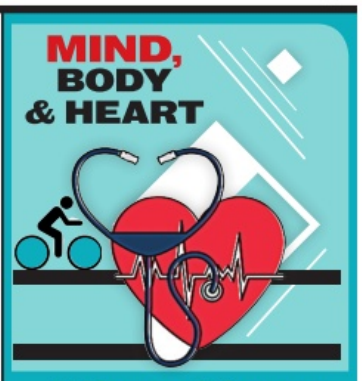
"We do a lot of research. There is a very vibrant and active coffee community in India. People recommend coffees and roasters to us. In fact, Rajiv runs a coffee group on Facebook. Members from this group may recommend things to us. Customers themselves recommend coffee to us," she said, adding that it is always exciting for them when a serious coffee drinker comes to the shop and is able to discover roasts they have never heard of tasted before.

The best part about the experience? Nerlus lets the customer get directly in touch with the roaster if they like a particular coffee and want to buy more of it. The menu contains all the information about a coffee that someone is tasting, including the roaster's name, estate's name, tasting notes, and roast profile. Customers are also able to get information about the coffee from the bags.

"All these coffees are available online, and we really encourage customers to buy from them. We don't sell coffee, but we love putting people in touch with these wonderful roasters," she added.

There is also an in-house bakery where bread, cakes, and savouries are made fresh.

"Our bakery menu is old school and nostalgic. You will find swiss rolls, vanilla drops, rustic cakes, and shortbread cookies. It's a very rustic homestyle bakery," she said.



All problems solved

Dear Coleen

I recently went abroad with work to attend a conference. I was there with a gang from my department and we're all in our 20s and 30s, so we hit the hotel bar and club most nights.
On the second to last night, I met a gorgeous guy from Spain. There was instant chemistry between us, but I'm married so I was up front with him that nothing could happen. However, on the last night, my colleagues and I got hammered and hooked up with this guy again, only this time he came back to my room and we ended up having sex. While I did feel guilty, I didn't regret it because it was an amazing night.
I keep reliving that night in my mind and I've been in touch with this guy a few times since.
I've never questioned my marriage before - I've thought my husband and I were pretty perfect together - but this has given me doubts.
I think he's suspicious something is going on as he keeps asking me if I'm OK. What do I do?

COLEEN SAYS

First, no relationship is "perfect" and yours certainly isn't or you wouldn't have slept with someone else so easily – drink or no drink. Of course a night of passionate sex with a hot stranger is exciting, but it's not a relationship and you must think carefully about what you've built with your husband and if you're willing to gamble it. Only you can decide how you deal with the guilt – do you come clean or at least admit to your husband you got close to another man or do you keep quiet? However, on the upside (if there is one), something like this can be a wake-up call for a relationship that's struggling. It's make or break. So it's up to you whether you're willing to acknowledge that and put effort into your marriage.

—Coleen Nolan, Daily Mirror

Chai-Time

SOLVE IT IN A MINUTE

3+7x4−8÷2 = ?

mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com
facebook.com/theBangaloremirror
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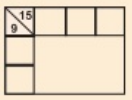
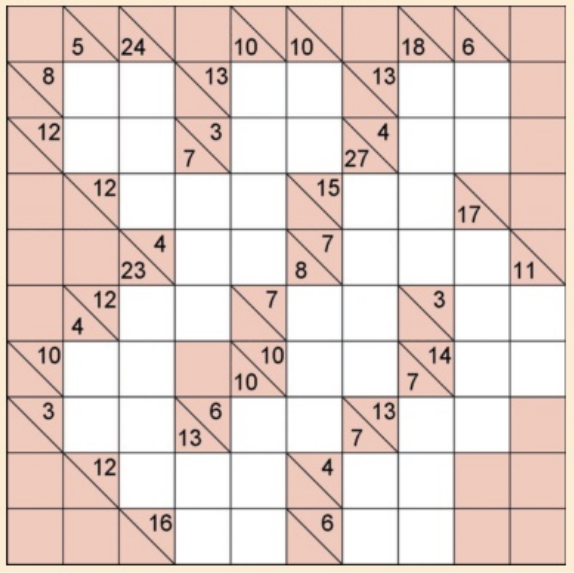
Kakuro

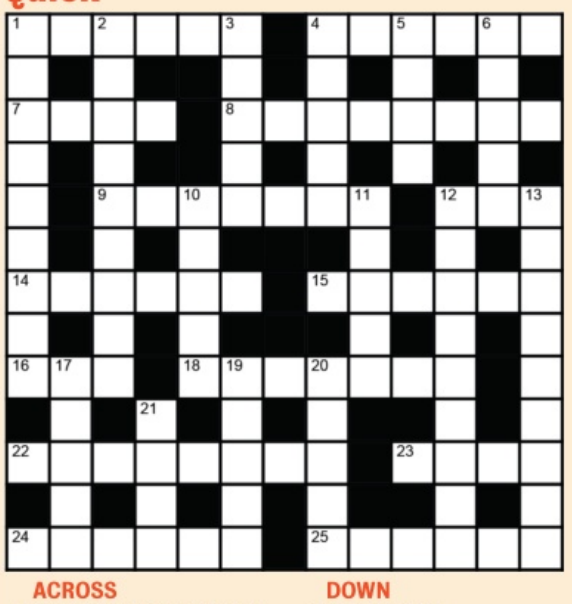


The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 One who enjoys being cruel to others? (6)
4 Karnataka tourist destination known for its sculptures and red sandstone cliffs (6)
7 Peruse (4)
8 Unable to move (8)
9 Innocent, rustic (7)
12 Sugar suffix (3)
14 Bargain (6)
15 _____ and bobtail : riff-raff? (6)
16 Loud noise (3)
18 Tanning salons (7)
22 Extremely poisonous or injurious (8)
23 Heap (4)
24 Attack as false (6)
25 Rules as a monarch (6)

DOWN

1 Elongated (9)
2 Being a seller of? (7,2)
3 Severe test (5)
4 Lovable deer created by Walt Disney (5)
5 Money owed (4)
6 Spies (5)
10 Shouts (5)
11 Professorship (5)
12 Offending grossly (9)
13 Enthusiasm (9)
17 Turn of phrase (5)
19 Concert hall (5)
20 Stage performer (5)
21 Spiritual teacher (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: U EQUALS S

UWMMTUU SU DPT XIJSXWX WDSYSAIDSEB EO DPT IZSYSDK DPID KEW PIHT.

Linemaro

I think I must be dying because I'm looking at Heaven

Mindchow

It's not that I'm so smart, it's just that I stay with problems longer

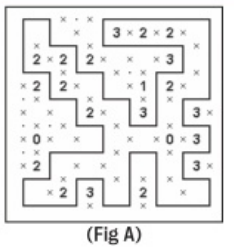
Joke of the day

God gave us our relatives; thank God, we can choose our friends

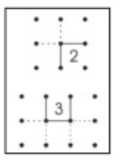
Loop

Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)

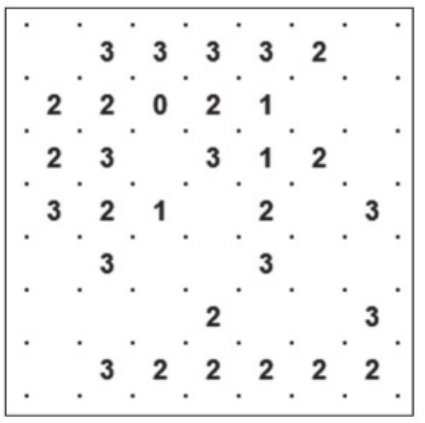


(Fig B) Not Allowed

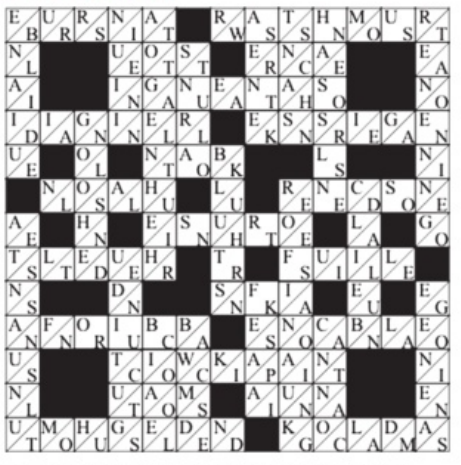
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...

1	2	3	4	5
6				
7				
8				
9		K		

ACROSS

1 Mt Ass; 6 Hi pun; 7 Toles; 8 Do ere; 9 Drake

DOWN

1 Serum; 2 Ratan; 3 Hooks; 4 Tiled; 5 Deeps

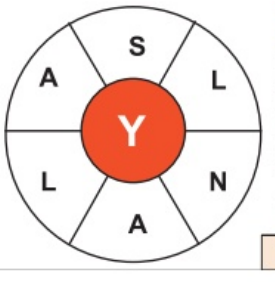
Mensapuzzle

Insert the remaining numbers below into the grid so that each line across and down totals 21.

6 6 6,
5 5 8,
7 3

5	2		
		9	1
3			9
	8	1	

Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

02 Average; 03 Good; 04 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

1			8		3			7
			4		5			
7		3	9		6	8		2
		9				3		
	8	7				9	2	
		5				7		
5		2	7		4	1		3
			3		2			
6			1		9			5

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 17

4 4 8 9

Medium = 14

5 6 7 8

Hard = 8

2 6 6 4

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

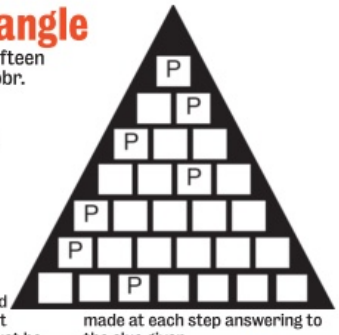
Differences: 1. Pinky is different. 2. Can is reversed. 3. Window is smaller. 4. Shape of sink is different. 5. Undershirt is longer. 6. Curtain hook is missing.

Riddler

What connects Christopher Lee, Bela Lugosi and Gary Oldman?

Alpha triangle

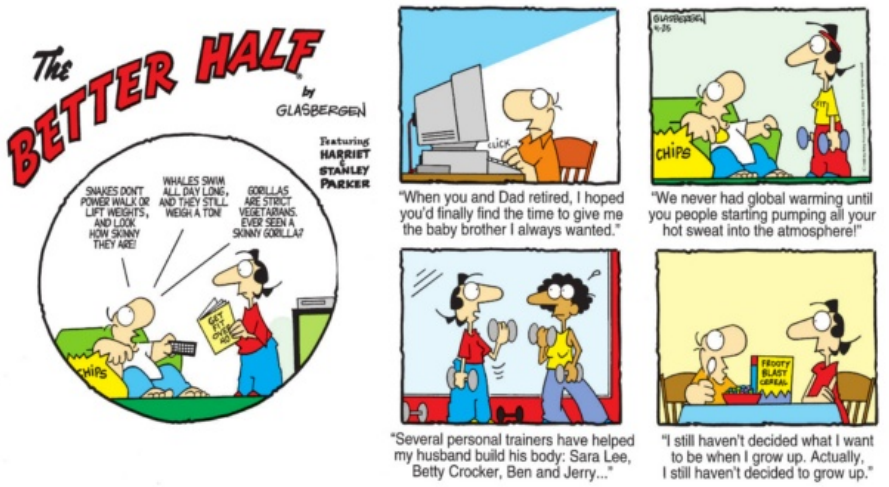
1 Atomic number Fifteen
2 Extended play, abbr.
3 According to
4 Mature
5 Chief or principal
6 Let
7 More vacuous



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS


The BETTER HALF
by GLASBERGEN
featuring HARRIET & STANLEY PARKER
SNAKES DON'T POWER WALK OR LIFT WEIGHTS, AND LOOK HOW SKINNY THEY ARE!
WHALES SWIM ALL DAY LONG, AND THEY STILL WEIGH A TON!
GORILLAS ARE STRICT VEGETARIANS. EVER SEEN A SKINNY GORILLA?
CHIPS
"When you and Dad retired, I hoped you'd finally find the time to give me the baby brother I always wanted."
"We never had global warming until you people starting pumping all your hot sweat into the atmosphere!"
"Several personal trainers have helped my husband build his body: Sara Lee, Betty Crocker, Ben and Jerry..."
"I still haven't decided what I want to be when I grow up. Actually, I still haven't decided to grow up."

AN ACCIDENTAL BITE BY A RADIOACTIVE SPIDER HAS GIVEN TEENAGER PETER PARKER SUPER POWERS, AND TRANSFORMED HIM INTO--
the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN
STAN LEE
A MURDEROUS MASKED MENACE OR A MODERN-DAY CRUSADER?
RESPONDING TO THE SOUNDS OF BATTLE ON THE HOSPITAL ROOF...
I'M GOING UP THERE!
BUT SINCE SOMETHING'S STOPPING YOU FROM CHANGING TO THE HULK--
--WHAT'RE YOU GONNA DO WHEN YOU GET THERE?
I'VE STOPPED YOU BEFORE, LIZARD-- AND I'LL DO IT AGAIN!
THAT WAS BEFORE MY REPTILIAN POWERS WERE AUGMENTED BY THE HULK'S BLOOD!
I CAN FEEL GAMMA-INDUCED POWER SURGING THROUGH MY BODY!
NOW, MORE THAN EVER BEFORE, I AM--
--INVINCIBLE!
THE LIZARD TRIUMPHANT?

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today you may face health issues which may make you impatient. You are advised to control your anger. You may spend your hard-earned money on buying worthless stuff that will affect your savings. Love birds are advised to avoid discussions on worthless topics to avoid fights.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today is a good day. You may get new clients for your business. Singles are likely to find a good match. You must avoid hiding anything from your spouse otherwise it will create some misunderstanding. Job seekers may likely get a new job, there are chances of promotions in their current job.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today with the help of your strong network you may implement some new business plans. You may use your wisdom to gain profits. You may also have harmony in your domestic life, there may be a good understanding between you and your spouse. For people working in the field of the metal industry, and booking agents will do better.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today you may feel more religious and even plan to visit some religious places. You will do so in search of peace of mind. You may donate some amount to charity or a spiritual place. People around you may get financial and moral support from you. You may now start enjoying every moment of your life with patience.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today you may have a dull feeling. You are advised to control your anger. Your focus can be tested many times but you should try to avoid getting distracted. It is recommended not to invest in worthless stuff. Love birds are advised to avoid unnecessary arguments on worthless topics.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today you are blessed by the moon. You may make new plans in terms of business and your colleagues may be with you to implement those plans. You may recover money that was stuck which may boost liquidity in the business. As the day progresses you might start feeling depressed and it will affect your sleep.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today you may have more control over your opponents and hidden enemies. The decision in a legal matter may come in your favour. Your seniors may be happy because of your hard work. You may get new responsibilities in terms of promotion. Singles may find a soul mate.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today you may be happy and you may plan to buy some creative stuff which may improve your lifestyle. You may also spend on your friends and family members. You may plan to make investments in assets. Singles may find a good match and love birds may enjoy their quality moments.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today you may be in seeking peace of mind. The moon's blessings may help you find that in time. Investments in property and other assets are advised to be avoided. You may have some happy moments in your domestic life but you are advised to avoid arrogance to maintain harmony. Disputes with the business partner are likely to be resolved.

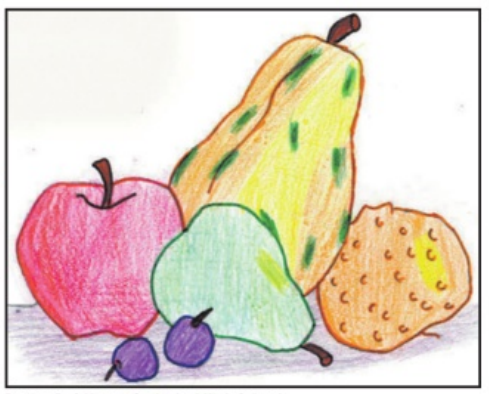
Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today you are blessed by the moon and your destiny is likely to be with you. Today you may be more energetic and focused on your work. Your hard work may pay you in terms of success. Your subordinates may help you. You are likely to go for short work-related travel. Some good news may come from your sibling. You may plan to renovate your house or office where your creativity will be tested.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
You may be able to control your expenditure on worthless things which may increase your savings. You may be more creative today and you may use your creativity in your office or at home. Love birds may be likely to get some support from their family members and friends in terms of marriage.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today a messy situation will be under control. You may feel peace of mind. You may be able to make a proper balance between expenditure and earnings which may increase savings. You are advised to avoid travelling or overworking as it may affect your health. Students can start planning their higher studies. Love birds may enjoy their happy moments.

KIDZONE

Saanvi Vasishsta, 5 Years, Sri Sri Ravishankar Bal Mandir



Prajna B, 9 Years, Cathedral High School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
3+28-8+2
=3+28-4
=31-4 = 27

RIDDLER
They have all played Dracula on screen.

QUOTE UNCODE
Success is the maximum utilization of the ability that you have.

FAST FIVE

M	A	S	T	S
U	N	H	I	P
S	T	O	L	E
E	R	O	D	E
R	A	K	E	D

BULL'S EYE
allay, ally, NASALLY, slay

STRIKE OUT

T	O	U	S	L	E	D	G	O	A	D	S			
L		T	A	M		I	N	N		E				
U		C	O	C	K	P	I	T		N				
A	F	R	I	C	A		E	N	A	B	L	E		
S		D		S	K	I		E		G				
S	T	E	R		R	F	U	L	L					
A	N		E	N	U	R	E		A	G				
N	O	A	H		L		R	E	C	O	N			
E	O		T	A	B		L			I				
D	I	N	N	E	R		E	N	S	I	G	N		
A		I	G	U	A	N	A	S		N				
B	U	R	N	T		W	A	S	H	O	U	T		

QUICK

I	M	P	U	G	N		R	E	I	G	N	S		
O		R		O		N				E				
V	I	R	U	L	E	N	T		P	I	L	E		
D		G		D	C		G			N				
D	I	N		S	O	L	A	R	I	A		R		
E		I		L		I		R		E				
H	A	G	G	L	E		R	A	G	T	A	G		
C		N		E		H		U		A				
T		I	D	Y	L	L	I	C	O	S	E			
E		L		A		B		T		E				
R	E	A	D		I	M	M	O	B	I	L	E		
E		E		R		A		E		O				
S	A	D	I	S	T		B	A	D	A	M	I		

MENSA PUZZLE

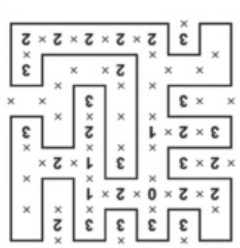
7	8	1		5
3	6	3		9
6	5	9		1
5	2	8		6

SUDOKU

6	3	4	1	8	9	2	7	5
8	7	1	3	5	2	4	6	9
5	9	2	7	6	4	1	8	3
3	6	5	2	9	8	7	1	4
4	8	7	5	3	1	9	2	6
2	1	9	6	4	7	3	5	8
7	5	3	9	1	6	8	4	2
9	2	8	4	7	5	6	3	1
1	4	6	8	2	3	5	9	7

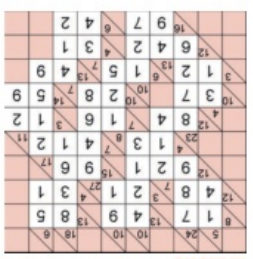
ALPHA TRIANGLE
p, EP, Per, Ripe, Prime, Permit, Emptier.

LOOP



GO FIGURE
Easy
8 + 4 – 4 + 9 = 17
Medium
5 + 7 + 8 – 6 = 14
Hard
6 + 4 – 6 x 2 = 8

KAKURO



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HEAVY ROLE

Actresses who have gained weight for their filmy characters

Acting is a lot about 'vanity', especially for the leading ladies. But here are some actresses who've broken stereotypes, become badass and have done whatever it took, for their part to look authentic. Check out actresses who've put on weight for their roles! **–ETimes**

Sonakshi Sinha and Huma Qureshi for 'Double XL'

Since the film breaks stereotypes surrounding body weight and slams body-shamers, both Sonakshi and Huma had put on 15-20 kilos of weight. The actresses had actually put on weight for looking authentic in their parts. They also ate a lot of food. Both Sonakshi and Huma have dealt with body shaming in the past, hence they had a deeper connection with the film and its subject.

Vidya Balan

Vidya Balan had put on 12 kilos for her role in 'The Dirty Picture' to play the character of Silk Smitha. The actress had to look voluptuous for her part and hence she was asked to gain weight. Since then, Vidya has also gotten quite unapologetic about her body and loves herself for who she is. She also promotes body positivity among many young women out there.

Bhumi Pednekar

It's very rare to see an actress gain so much weight for her debut film without the fear of not being accepted or being stereotyped from there on. But Bhumi took the plunge and gained weight for her role in 'Dum Laga Ke Haisha' opposite Ayushmann Khurrana. The actress quickly also shed all those kilos and was back in shape right in her second film, 'Toilet Ek Prem Katha'.

Nimrat Kaur

Nimrat who played Bimla Devi in Abhishek Bachchan starrer 'Dasvi' had put on 15kg for her part. She was criticised a lot for the weight gain but she quickly went back to her normal shape post the release of 'Dasvi' and revealed in a note that it was for the film. She also documented her journey and transformation and gave a fitting reply to body-shamers.

A paradigm shift

NAHI JNANENA SADRUSHAM

2.5 RATING ★★½☆☆

- **DIRECTOR** Ramanatha B
- **ACTORS** Ramanatha B, Aruna Balraj, Mahesh SP, Bettesh, Lingesh, Srinidhi, and Vedika
- **CERTIFICATION** U
- **Duration** 146 minutes

The movie begins with Ram (Ramanatha), a robotic engineer from the US, who has come back to India to quench his thirst for knowledge. Circumstances compel him to work as a mathematics teacher at a school. He tries to teach different methods to teach the students. He encourages students to be involved in sports and cultural activities, including watching movies rather than focusing on studies. The students in the class are divided into three categories – average, first rank, and students who give importance to sports rather than academics.

He asks students to make their parents do the homework given to them. His method of teaching invites parents' wrath and they demand the principal dismiss him from service. What happens to Ram and if he succeeds in convincing the parents is what the film is about.

Ramanatha B, who is actually a software engineer in the US, must be appreciated for his passion for cinema. He is the producer, director and hero in this movie that is aimed at implementing different methods of teaching at government or private schools. The specialty of this movie is that it not only encourages non-academic activities but also explains why it is important to respect teachers. It also shows some teachers who need to be trained on how to shed their ego and focus on teaching.

The main drawback of the movie is that it does not have a well-established ensemble of actors. Veteran character actor Aruna Balraj makes a brief appearance and Mahesh SP provides good support.

Cinematographer Kiran CHM has done an excellent job. The scenic Bellary Fort and its surroundings are a visual treat. Music by Arjun Ram is average.

All in all, this movie is worth a watch if not for anything then to see the beautiful locales around Ballari.

—Y Maheswara Reddy

Thanks, love

Suniel Shetty's daughter Athiya Shetty turned 30 on Saturday and wishes have been pouring in all day for the gorgeous actress. Her cricketer boyfriend KL Rahul too took to Instagram and shared a mix of mushy and goofy pictures of them together. He wished his ladylove with a caption that will make you chuckle. Calling her 'my joker', Rahul wrote, "Happy birthday... you make everything better".

Athiya Shetty responded with a 'Love you' in the comments followed by a red heart. Suniel Shetty, Ahan Shetty and many celebs too dropped love on the pictures. Krishna Shroff, Saiyami Kher, Sikander Kher and others dropped heart emojis.

Reports suggest the lovebirds are all set to tie the knot soon, however both have remained tight-lipped about the same. **—ETimes**